ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 14014.0360
SERIAL NO. 09/483,434

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-3, 7, 9-10, 15-18 have been under examination. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-10 are allowable. The Examiner has indicated that claims 3, 7, and 17-18 are allowable, but for their dependency from rejected claims (i.e., they are objected to). In the present Response, Applicants cancel claims 1-2 and 15-16, indicated as being non-allowable, and claims 4-5, 8, and 11-14, drawn to non-elected aspects of the invention. Also, in the present Response, Applicants amend claims 3, 7 and 17-18 to incorporate limitations of the claims from which they depend, thereby removing the basis of objection stated above. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the present amendment entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made." No new matter is believed added by these amendments. Furthermore, since all of the limitations added by the present amendments were present in the examined pending claims, no new issues are presented. Thus, the present amendments should all be entered with this Response.

All claims pending following entry of the above-indicated amendments, i.e., claims 3, 7, 9-10 and 17-18, are believed to be allowable. Applicants request entry of each of these amendments and allowance of each then-pending claim to issue.

Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 authorizing payment in the amount of $1534.00 ($1450.00 for a four (4) month Extension of Time fee and $84.00 for an additional independent claim in excess of three) is included herewith. This amount is

believed to be correct. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile no. 703-305-7939 to: Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, ATTN: G. Leffers, Jr., on the date shown below.

Gwendolyn D. Spratt — 2-21-03

Gwendolyn D. Spratt — Date

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the claims:

3. (Amended) A method for delivering a biologically active molecule into a cell comprising: 1) covalently linking a molecule to the cell surface, wherein the molecule can act as a surface receptor, 2) complexing the biologically active molecule with a ligand for the surface receptor, and 3) contacting the biologically active molecule-ligand complex with the cell surface, whereby the biologically active molecule is delivered into the cell, [The method of claim 1] wherein the covalently linked molecule is biotin and the ligand is avidin.

7. (Twice amended) A method for delivering a biologically active molecule into a cell comprising: 1) covalently linking a molecule to the cell surface, wherein the molecule can act as a surface receptor, 2) complexing the biologically active molecule with a ligand for the surface receptor, and 3) contacting the biologically active molecule-ligand complex with the cell surface, whereby the biologically active molecule is delivered into the cell, [The method of claim 1,] wherein the biologically active molecule is a nucleic acid, the ligand is PEI conjugated to avidin and the surface receptor is biotin.

17. (Amended) A method for delivering a biologically active molecule to a cell comprising: 1) covalently linking a molecule to the cell surface, wherein the molecule can act as a surface receptor, 2) complexing the biologically active molecule with a ligand for the surface receptor, and 3) contacting the biologically active molecule-ligand complex with the cell surface, whereby the biologically active molecule is delivered to the cell, [The method of claim 15,] wherein the covalently linked molecule is biotin and the ligand is avidin.

18. (Amended) A method for delivering a biologically active molecule to a cell comprising: 1) covalently linking a molecule to the cell surface, wherein the molecule can act as a surface receptor, 2) complexing the biologically active molecule with a ligand for the surface receptor, and 3) contacting the biologically active molecule-ligand complex with the cell surface, whereby the biologically active molecule is delivered to the cell. [The method of claim 15,] wherein the biologically active molecule is a nucleic acid, the ligand is PEI conjugated to avidin and the surface receptor is biotin.